

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 06297 261620 Z

50

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 SNM-02 SY-02

USIA-04 BNDE-00 JUSE-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 RSR-01 /058 W

----- 039660

P 211415 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO CINCPAC FLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPAC CAMP H. M. SMITH HI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2564

JCS WASHDC

DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE SAIGON RVN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON RVN

USDLO HONG KONG

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

COMSEVENTHFLT

CTF SEVEN TWO

CTF SEVEN FIVE

CTF SEVEN SIX

CTG SEVEN ZERO PT NINE

CHLFTCOORDGRU NKP THAI

COMUSNAVPHIL SUBIC

CNO WASHDC

CTG SEVEN TWO PT THREE

CTU SEVEN TWO PT THREE PT FIVE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 6297

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (F O R M R N V I C E 2564)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: VAGABOND CLIPPER

REF: CINCPACFLT 200701 APR 73

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 06297 261620 Z

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL INVOLVED IN THE SUCCESSFUL SEIZURE OF THE TRAWLER PHASAKORN SUMUTH AND ITS LOAD OF OVER 6 TONS OF OPIUM, PLUS MORPHINE BASE EQUIVALENT TO MORE THAN AN ADDITIONAL TON. THIS IS A BREAKTHROUGH WE HAVE ALL WORKED HARD FOR AND WE CAN TAKE CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION IN IT.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS SEIZURE IS A REMINDER OF THE VOLUME OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC COMING OUT OF THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE AREA, MUCH OF IT MOVING THROUGH THAILAND. IT WILL TAKE CONTINUED INTENSE EFFORT TO STEM THE FLOW OF THIS TRAFFICE BUT WE HAVE SEEN SOME REAL PROGRESS IN RECENT MONTHS IN ENGAGING THE RTG IN THIS EFFORT, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE CHANGES IN POLICE LEADERSHIP MADE LAST AUTUMN. SEIZURES HERE IN THAILAND HAVE INCREASED, AND WE ARE WORKING URGENTLY WITH THE NEW POLICE LEADERS IN DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL WAYS AND MEANS OF GETTING AT THE TRAWLER PROBLEM. WITHOUT THE COMMITMENT AND COOPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENTS IN THIS AREA, WE CAN NEVER BE MORE THAN marginally EFFECTIVE AGAINST THIS WELL- ENTRENCHED AND LUCRATIVE BUSINESS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE STILL HAVE A WAY TO GO HERE, BUT THIS PRESENT SEIZURE, AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY THE SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION AND FOLLOWUP NOW GETTING UNDER WAY CAN HELP THIS MISSION SUBSTANTIALLY IN MOVING THE RTG ALONG TOWARD FULLER COMMITMENT AND COOPERATION.

YOU HAVE MY ASSURANCE THAT MY MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO MAKE OUR JOINT EFFORTS CONSTANTLY MORE EFFECTIVE.
UNGER

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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